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News Release

national machine tool builders association

FOR RELEASE: April 27, 1987
Contact: Charles Pollock
Michael Codel

MACHINE TOOL ORDERS RISE IN MARCH

Net new machine tool orders for the first quarter of 1987 fell 24.5% to $464.70 million from their level for the first quarter of 1986, while shipments dropped 20.3% to $475.90 million, according to figures released today by the National Machine Tool Builders' Association.

March orders totaled $165.20 million, down 23.0% from March 1986, but up 8.1% over February's total. Shipments during March totaled $181.60 million, falling 27.0% from March a year ago, but rising 23.9% above February of this year.

"The figures we are seeing today are in large part due to the steady loss of both total market and market share that the American machine tool industry has suffered over the last few years," said James A. Gray, president of NMTBA. "Long before the current public awareness of the threat posed by excessive imports, this industry felt the bite of the invasion of foreign products. We are encouraged that both the Administration and the Congress have taken an interest in this problem. This industry, as well as other U.S. industries, must have the opportunity to compete on an even basis in worldwide markets."

(MORE)

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Metal cutting machine tool orders rose 20.0% from their February total to $124.45 million, while metal forming orders fell 17.1% to $40.75 million. Comparing March 1987 to March 1986, orders for metal cutting equipment fell 22.2% and orders for metal forming equipment fell 25.5%.

Shipments of metal cutting equipment rose 38.8% during March to $137.75 million, while shipments of metal forming equipment fell 7.4% to $43.85 million. However, compared to March 1986, March 1987 shipments fell 19.7% in metal cutting machine tools and 43.2% in metal forming machine tools.

Machine tool backlogs for March 1987 fell to $1,193.15 million, down from the $1,209.55 million posted in February.

# # #

COMPARISON CHART

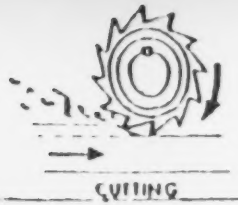
NET NEW ORDERS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
MAR 1987	108.55	15.90	124.45	28.70	12.05	40.75	137.25	27.95	165.20
FEB 1987	98.35	5.35	103.70	43.10	6.05	49.15	141.45	11.40	152.85
% CHANGE									
MAR 1987:FEB 1987	+10.4	+197.2	+20.0	-33.4	+99.2	-17.1	-3.0	+145.2	+8.1
MAR 1986	146.05	13.85	159.90	50.75	3.95	54.70	196.80	17.80	214.60
% CHANGE									
MAR 1987:MAR 1986	-25.7	+14.8	-22.2	-43.4	+205.1	-25.5	-30.3	+57.0	-23.0
YEAR TO DATE 1987	292.55	34.55	327.10	104.70	32.90	137.60	397.25	67.45	464.70
YEAR TO DATE 1986	431.45	32.05	463.50	138.55	13.70	152.25	570.00	45.75	615.75
% CHANGE									
1987 : 1986	-32.2	+7.8	-29.4	-24.4	+140.1	-9.6	-30.3	+47.4	-24.5

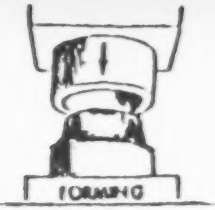
SHIPMENTS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
MAR 1987	117.40	20.35	137.75	35.85	8.00	43.85	153.25	28.35	181.60
FEB 1987	88.80	10.45	99.25	42.65	4.70	47.35	131.45	15.15	146.60
% CHANGE									
MAR 1987:FEB 1987	+32.2	+94.7	+38.8	-15.9	+70.2	-7.4	+16.6	+87.1	+23.9
MAR 1986	148.20	23.35	171.55	71.10	6.15	77.25	219.30	29.50	248.80
% CHANGE									
MAR 1987:MAR 1986	-20.8	-12.8	-19.7	-49.6	+30.1	-43.2	-30.1	-3.9	-27.0
YEAR TO DATE 1987	310.30	37.95	348.25	109.75	17.90	127.65	420.05	55.85	475.90
YEAR TO DATE 1986	331.75	55.20	386.95	198.05	12.30	210.35	529.80	67.50	597.30
% CHANGE									
1987 : 1986	-6.5	-31.2	-10.0	-44.6	+45.5	-39.3	-20.7	-17.3	-20.3

Source: National Machine Tool Builders' Association



TOTAL INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
MACHINE TOOLS - CUTTING AND FORMING
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

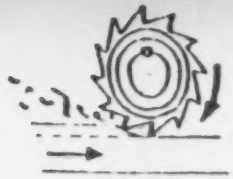


DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1986	$ 1,883.35	$ 241.95	$ 2,125.30	1,204.35	$ 2,306.05	$ 272.45	$ 2,578.50
1987							
JAN	$ 118.55	$ 28.10	$ 146.65	1,203.30	$ 135.35	$ 12.35	$ 147.70
FEB	$ 141.45	$ 11.40	$ 152.85	1,209.55	$ 131.45	$ 15.15	$ 146.60
MAR (P)	$ 137.25	$ 27.95	$ 165.20	1,193.15	$ 153.25	$ 28.35	$ 181.60
3 MONTHS	$ 397.25	$ 67.45	$ 464.70		$ 420.05	$ 55.85	$ 475.90

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1986	$ 2,065.20	$ 257.20	$ 2,322.40	$ 181.85	$ 15.25	$ 197.10
1987						
JAN	$ 124.60	$ 28.20	$ 152.80	$ 6.05	$ .10	$ 6.15
FEB	$ 147.45	$ 13.60	$ 161.05	$ 6.00	$ 2.20	$ 8.20
MAR (P)	$ 166.05	$ 30.05	$ 196.10	$ 28.80	$ 2.10	$ 30.90
3 MONTHS	$ 438.10	$ 71.85	$ 509.95	$ 40.85	$ 4.40	$ 45.25

P - Preliminary

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.



INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL CUTTING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1986	$ 1,376.55	$ 167.70	$ 1,544.25	897.25	$ 1,684.70	$ 205.60	$ 1,890.30
1987							
JAN	$ 85.65	$ 13.30	$ 98.95	884.95	$ 104.10	$ 7.15	$ 111.25
FEB	$ 98.35	$ 5.35	$ 103.70	889.40	$ 88.80	$ 10.45	$ 99.25
MAR (P)	$ 108.55	$ 15.90	$ 124.45	876.10	$ 117.40	$ 20.35	$ 137.75
3 MONTHS	$ 292.55	$ 34.55	$ 327.10		$ 310.30	$ 37.95	$ 348.25

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1986	$ 1,498.60	$ 176.35	$ 1,674.95	$ 122.05	$ 8.65	$ 130.70
1987						
JAN	$ 90.30	$ 13.35	$ 103.65	$ 4.65	$ .05	$ 4.70
FEB	$ 101.55	$ 7.50	$ 109.05	$ 3.20	$ 2.15	$ 5.35
MAR (P)	$ 115.00	$ 17.95	$ 132.95	$ 6.45	$ 2.05	$ 8.50
3 MONTHS	$ 306.85	$ 38.80	$ 345.65	$ 14.30	$ 4.25	$ 18.55

P - Preliminary

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL FORMING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	NET NEW ORDERS Foreign	NET NEW ORDERS Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	SHIPMENTS Foreign	SHIPMENTS Total
1986	$ 506.80	$ 74.25	$ 581.05	307.10	$ 621.35	$ 66.85	$ 688.20
1987							
JAN	$ 32.90	$ 14.80	$ 47.70	318.35	$ 31.25	$ 5.20	$ 36.45
FEB	$ 43.10	$ 6.05	$ 49.15	320.15	$ 42.65	$ 4.70	$ 47.35
MAR (P)	$ 28.70	$ 12.05	$ 40.75	317.05	$ 35.85	$ 8.00	$ 43.85
3 MONTHS	$ 104.70	$ 32.90	$ 137.60		$ 109.75	$ 17.90	$ 127.65

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	GROSS NEW ORDERS Foreign	GROSS NEW ORDERS Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	CANCELLATIONS Foreign	CANCELLATIONS Total
1986	$ 566.60	$ 80.85	$ 647.45	$ 59.80	$ 6.60	$ 66.40
1987						
JAN	$ 34.30	$ 14.85	$ 49.15	$ 1.40	$ .05	$ 1.45
FEB	$ 45.90	$ 6.10	$ 52.00	$ 2.80	$ .05	$ 2.85
MAR (P)	$ 51.05	$ 12.10	$ 63.15	$ 22.35	$ .05	$ 22.40
3 MONTHS	$ 131.25	$ 33.05	$ 164.30	$ 26.55	$ .15	$ 26.70

P - Preliminary

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

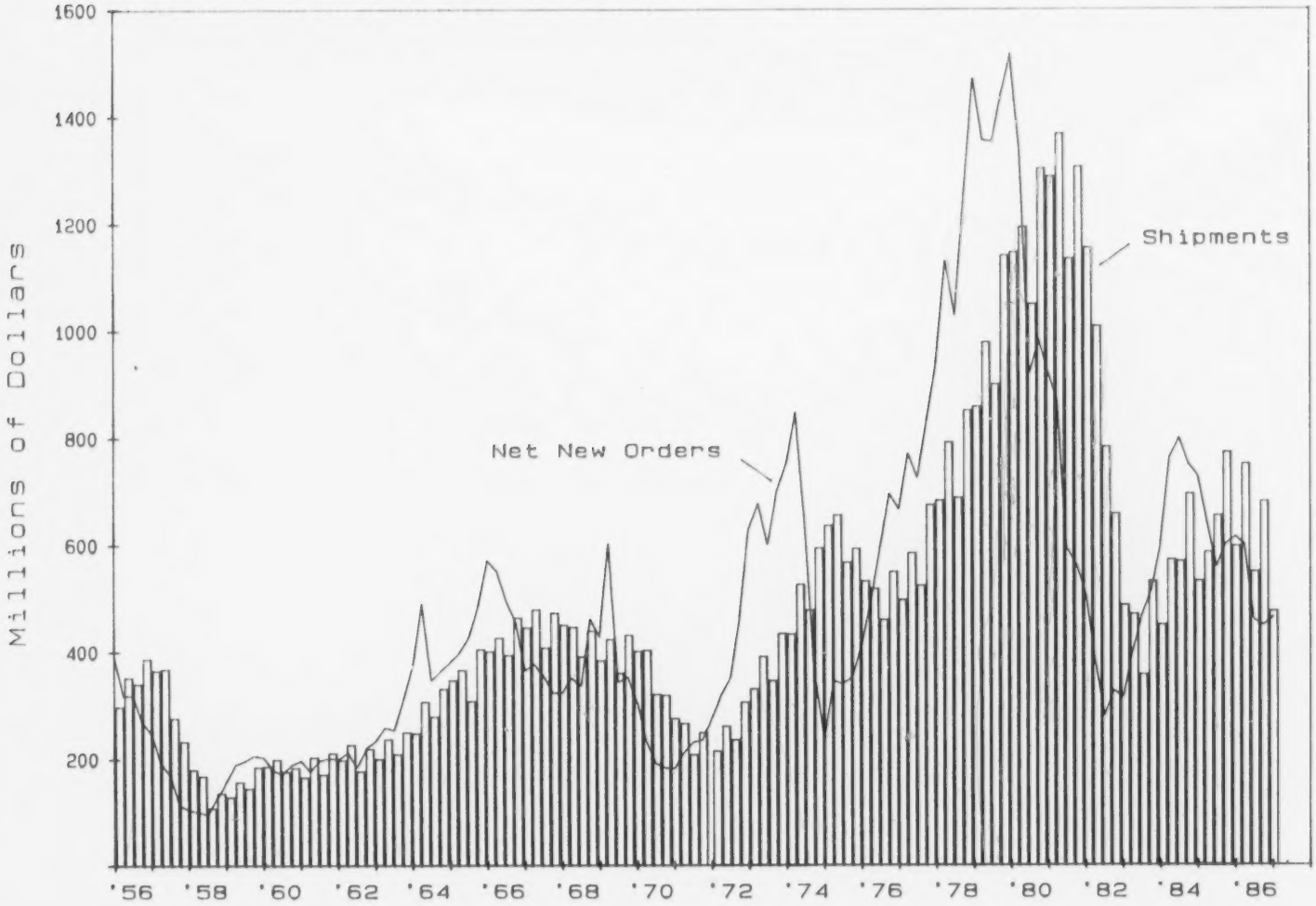
QUARTERLY AND YEARLY SHIPMENTS AND NET NEW ORDERS OF MACHINE TOOLS
(Dollar Figures in Thousands)
1981 to Date

	Cutting and Forming			Cutting			Forming		
	SHIPMENTS		NET	SHIPMENTS		NET	SHIPMENTS		NET
DATE	Total	Foreign	NEW ORDERS	Total	Foreign	NEW ORDERS	Total	Foreign	NEW ORDERS
1981-1	$1,288,200	$210,800	$ 920,350	$1,017,850	$155,600	$ 706,600	$ 270,350	$ 55,200	$ 213,750
2	1,367,500	236,350	867,000	1,103,400	185,450	661,200	264,100	50,900	205,800
3	1,133,950	127,950	593,450	920,300	99,950	455,250	213,650	28,000	138,200
4	1,305,950	143,850	564,050	1,062,950	111,050	405,050	243,000	32,800	159,000
Total	$5,095,600	$718,950	$2,944,850	$4,104,500	$552,050	$2,228,100	$ 991,100	$ 166,900	$ 716,750
1982-1	$1,154,200	$112,650	$ 506,800	$ 933,050	$ 71,750	$ 384,850	$ 221,150	$ 40,900	$ 121,950
2	1,008,450	96,600	382,650	810,650	75,350	274,750	197,800	21,250	107,900
3	783,400	107,200	279,950	640,450	89,750	183,450	142,950	17,450	96,500
4	658,350	89,600	328,350	510,600	59,300	221,400	147,750	30,300	106,950
Total	$3,604,400	$406,050	$1,497,750	$2,894,750	$296,150	$1,064,450	$ 709,650	$ 109,900	$ 433,300
1983-1	$ 487,450	$ 56,650	$ 314,850	$ 370,600	$ 40,800	$ 224,100	$ 116,850	$ 15,850	$ 90,750
2	469,650	58,300	399,100	357,500	49,300	269,300	112,150	9,000	129,800
3	357,050	42,900	468,150	252,350	32,200	322,200	104,700	10,700	145,950
4	530,900	57,150	514,050	391,050	49,600	336,050	139,850	7,550	178,000
Total	$1,845,050	$215,000	$1,696,150	$1,371,500	$171,900	$1,151,650	$ 473,550	$ 43,100	$ 544,500
1984-1	$ 449,500	$ 40,550	$ 600,450	$ 298,100	$ 25,100	$ 412,750	$ 151,400	$ 15,450	$ 187,700
2	572,300	50,700	764,400	401,800	28,250	499,200	170,500	22,450	265,200
3	568,850	41,850	800,200	401,550	24,300	493,000	167,300	17,550	307,200
4	695,200	60,150	750,750	505,050	45,000	510,850	190,150	15,150	239,900
Total	$2,285,850	$193,250	$2,915,800	$1,606,500	$122,650	$1,915,800	$ 679,350	$ 70,600	$1,000,000
1985-1	$ 531,700	$ 48,950	$ 728,250	$ 357,050	$ 37,150	$ 528,500	$ 174,650	$ 11,800	$ 199,750
2	586,050	37,700	641,400	385,000	27,450	475,700	201,050	10,250	165,700
3	654,650	58,250	558,450	443,050	35,950	404,750	211,600	22,300	153,700
4	772,800	108,850	600,000	557,150	93,200	444,150	215,650	15,650	155,850
Total	$2,545,200	$253,750	$2,528,100	$1,742,250	$193,750	$1,853,100	$ 802,950	$ 60,000	$ 675,000
1986-1	$ 597,300	$ 67,500	$ 615,750	$ 386,950	$ 55,200	$ 463,500	$ 210,350	$ 12,300	$ 152,250
2	751,000	64,100	600,600	569,350	49,500	434,650	181,650	14,600	165,950
3	549,350	64,200	459,650	418,700	49,500	344,050	130,650	14,700	115,600
4	680,850	76,650	449,300	515,300	51,400	302,050	165,550	25,250	147,250
Total	$2,578,500	$272,450	$2,125,300	$1,890,300	$205,600	$1,544,250	$ 688,200	$ 66,850	$ 581,050
1987-1P	$ 475,900	$ 55,850	$ 464,700	$ 348,250	$ 37,950	$ 327,100	$ 127,650	$ 17,900	$ 137,600

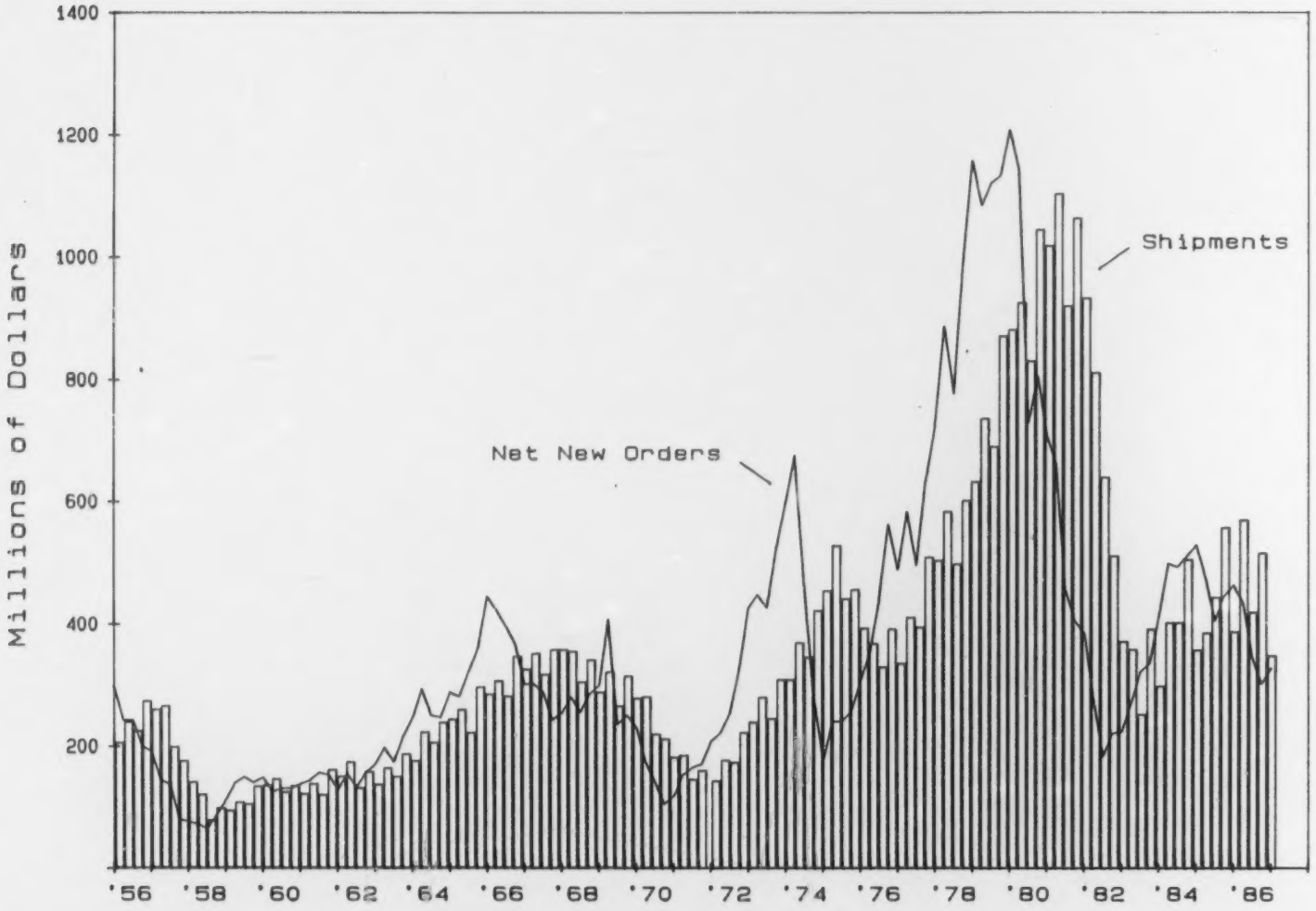
P - Preliminary
NOTE: These data series are available back to 1956. To obtain a copy of the tables for 1956 through 1987, contact: NMTBA Statistical Department, 7901 Westpark Drive, McLean, Virginia 22102-4269. Phone: 703:893-2900
Source: National Machine Tool Builders' Association

April 27, 1987

Total Machine Tools
Shipments (Bar) and Net New Orders (Line)
Quarterly, 1956: 1 to 1987: 1



Metal Cutting Machine Tools
Shipments (Bar) and Net New Orders (Line)
Quarterly, 1956: 1 to 1987: 1



Metal Forming Machine Tools
Shipments (Bar) and Net New Orders (Line)
Quarterly, 1956: 1 to 1987: 1